

Of the Famous and Pleasant

# HISTORY

OF

# PARISMUS,

The Valiant and Renowned

Prince of *BOHEMIA*.

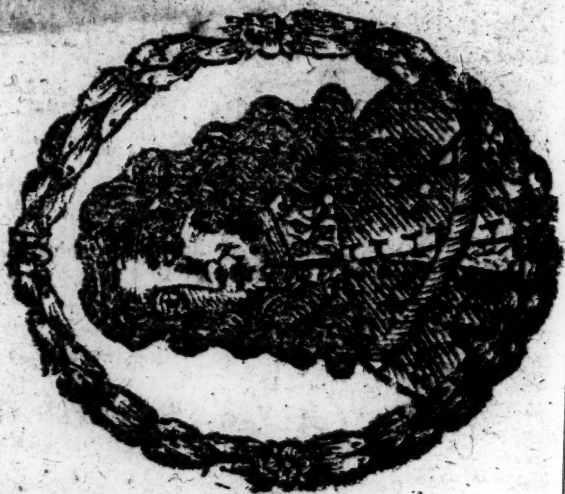
*In Two Parts.*

**PART I.** Containing his Triumphant Battels fought against the *Perissians*, his Love to the Beautiful *LADY RANA*, the great Dangers he passed in the *Island of Raby*, and his strange Adventures in the *Desolate Island*.

**PART II.** Containing the Adventurous Travels, and Noble Chivalry of *Parismenus*, the Knight of Fame, with his Love to the Fair Princess *Angelica*, the Lady of the *Golden Tower*.

LONDON: Printed by W. Onley, for Josiah Blane, at the Looking-glass, on London-bridge; and for George Corney, at the Ring in Little Britain.

PARISMUS.



LAURANA.







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## The Preface to the READER.

*Counteous Reader,*

**I**N this Book you will find such Variety of excellent Passages, so taking and'delightful, that I may well say it is a Garden of Pleasure to refresh the Mind, and recreate the Senses; here the Conquests of Beauty, Valour, and Vertue are mixed and interwoven like Roses, Lillies, and Gessamine, that compose and enamel a fragrant Bower, each striving which shall add most to your Contentment.

The Loves of the valiant *Parismus* and the beautiful *Laurana* are no less Strangers to the World, than those of *Parismenos* and the fair *Angelica*; a History it is that has found Acceptance with Persons of all Degrees, whose Pages have been many times drowned with Ladies Tears, flowing from a tender Compassion to suffering Lovers, whose Vertues contended with their adverse Fates and doubtful Fortunes, and, after long combating, broke thro' many Dangers, like the Sun, after a black and affrighting Tempest, shined clear again, to their Joy and Comfort.

The main Design and End of this Book, is, to encourage Vertue and true Magnanimity,

## *The Preface to the READER.*

by the Examples of the chief Characters lively represented in it; and tho', at first sight, it appears to be only the History of *Parismus* and *Parismenos*, yet it contains various Histories of the Adventures of other renowned Knights, with their Passions and different Successes in Love and Arms; the destroying of Tyrants and Oppressors, and rescuing the Distressed from their imminent Dangers, with the Satisfaction they received thereby and communicated to others.

To be brief, It contains whatever is desirable and pleasing of this nature, and cannot, for any thing I conceive, miss of a kind Entertainment, especially with the younger sort; and, to others, it may not be ungrateful, but antidote Melancholly and divert them at leisure Hours, By unbending their Cares, and dissipate the dulness of the Spirits, that too tedious a pursuit of Business brings upon them. So, no longer to detain you, I wish you as much Pleasure in Reading as I had in Writing it.

*Parismus fam'd, and Parismenos here,  
The Patterns of Heroick Vertue are;  
They such Renown by Love and Arms have won,  
As makes their Names to travel with the Sun;  
All Nations read their Story with delight,  
And give due Praises to them in their right;  
Peruse it then, and you will with the rest,  
Vote, of this kind, this Book to be the best.*

The Famous and Renowned

# HISTORY

OF

# PARISMUS!

## PART I.

### CHAP. I.

How **Parismus**, Prince of **Bohemia**, arrived in **Chesalp**, and by the assistance of his Friend **Oristus** got a sight of the incomparable Princess **Laurana**.

**P**arismus, Son and Heir apparent to the King of **Bohemia**, having at home given sufficient testimony of his Princely Courage, began now to think of manifesting his Valour abroad, and led especially by the Fame of **Laurana**, Heiress to the Crown

of Thessaly, and Daughter to Dionysius King thereof; he determined, with an honourable Retinue to visit the Court of Thebes, the Metropolis of that Countrey: Where, being received with all imaginable Courtesie and Magnificence, he resolved to spend some time, encouraging himself with secret hopes of enjoying the beloved (tho' yet unseen) Laurana. For was Parismus the only Person that entertained those groundless Hopes, for as the World was filled with the Reports, so was her Father's Court with Princes, that continually resorted thither in hopes of gaining her Affection; amongst whom was one Sicanus, Prince of Persia, who, with the King and Queen of Hungary, Prince of Sparta, and Lady Isabella, came thither about the same time, and upon the same account.

Dionysius, famous as well for the Hospitality of his Court, as the Beauty of his Daughter, entertain'd them with like Courtesie and Civility; but Laurana, who had observed the two Princes severally at their approach, conceived in her tender Heart, an inclination rather to like Parismus than Sicanus; not that she knew either their Business or their Qualities, much less their Names.



of what Country they were ; but seeing Parisus enter the Palace, being a Prince of comely Gesture, and Masculine Beauty, she could not refrain from calling Leda her Maid to the Chamber-window, to ask her Opinion concerning him ; nor from speaking many things in commendation of so worthy a Personage.

No sooner had he withdrawn himself, and entered the Palace, but Laurana began insensibly to find in herself a sensible alteration ; sometimes she blush'd, as if she had been in a fault, and then presently she look'd pale, for fear of being discover'd ; sometimes she sigh'd, which she endeavour'd to drown in a cough, and sometimes studd'd, which she always put off with a smile ; this diversity of Passions she no more knew how to prevent, than to guess from whence they came ; but Leda being a more experienc'd Amozist, soon guess'd at the Distemper by the Symptoms, and though she seem'd to discern nothing, because she saw her Lady desir'd to have it so, yet she easily found all the Signs and Tokens of an ensuing Fit of Love.

Dionysius in the mean time entertaining the young Princes and Nobles with  
all

all the Splendor of his Court, (excepting the fair Laurana) gave all the satisfaction and content they could wish or imagine; only Parismus, fill'd with the expectation of so Divine a Creature, could take delight in none of all the costly Delicacies there provided: which, while the other Guests most lavishly wasted and devoured, he in the mean time cautiously fed himself even with the despair of seeing Laurana. However, he seem'd to do like the rest, that so his Concernment might not be misconstrued, as an effect of his Dislike; nor truly construed, for an effect of his Love. Dinner ended, (with Parismus before it begun) the Company retired into the Gardens, which were most sumptuous and delightful, as well for Use as Ornament, and fraught with all manner of Fruits to please the Palate, as well as Flowers to gratifie the other Senses. Here, while the Nobles were diverting themselves according to their several inclinations, Parismus singling out his trusty Friend Qristus, took him aside to a private and melancholly Walk in the Wilderness, and there, after some leading Questions about indifferent Matters, he came to ask him how he liked the Court of Dionysius; and whe.

whether those Gardens were not much more pleasant than any in Bohemia? &c. To all which Oristus having answer'd in such a manner as he thought might best please the Prince, he at last desired pardon of Parismus, if he likewise might presume, without offence, to ask his Highness one innocent Question; to whom Parismus replied, That an innocent Question could offend none but a churlish Disposition, though propounded by an Enemy or Stranger, much less from a Bos-friend: Then, replied Oristus, is not my Lord in trouble of Mind, that he hath not yet enjoy'd the sight of his beloved Laurana? To whom Parismus replied, My dear Oristus, thou art so much the Partaker of my Heart, that I can keep no Secret from thee; and when soe'er a time I endeavour to be so unkind, my very self discovers that which I endeavour to conceal: 'Tis that, and only that which disquieteth me, and takes from the Beauty of those delightful Gardens, and, indeed, of every place where he is not, or, at least, not to be seen. Oristus perceiving him grow into a kind of amorous Extacy, desired him to mitigate his Passion, and he question'd not but by the Interest he had in

in the Lord Remus, (a great Favourite) to procure him, not only the Sight, but the Speech of the Admired Lady; which for the present gave him some Satisfaction, being willing to believe what he so much desired, though at present he saw no way how it might probably be effected.

The Evening passing with many Delightful and Princely Exercises, they began to think of repairing every one to their respective Lodgings, whither they were severally attended; and though the Apartment allotted for Parisius were more richly adorned than any of the rest, yet such was his Disquiet of Mind, that notwithstanding the Comfort Christus gave him, he took little rest that Night, but spent the solitary Hours in Contemplation of a Person he had never seen, and in framing for her such Features as were best pleasing to himself.

Early in the Morning, Dionysius, according to his usual custom, rose to go a Hunting; and visiting his Guests of chiefest Note, desired their Company; but Oristus, purposing to perform his Promise, stay'd behind with the Lord Remus, who invited him to take a walk in the Gardens, and view the Magnificent

cent Height, and Spacious Circumference of the Palace: which, when Oristus had sufficiently viewed, but could never sufficiently admire; as they were returning by the way of the Privy-garden, they were happily met by the Illustrious Laurana, who, with her Maid Leda, was coming to take the benefit of the Morning-air, at a time she thought all the Strangers of the Court had been rode a Hunting; she at first started at the sight of the strange Knight, but seeing him in the company of the Lord Remus, she came with the greater confidence, and said, 'I thought, my Lord, this fine Morning would certainly have drawn your Lordship into the field; who have always been a profess'd Huntsman. Truly, Madam, said he, were I always sure to be thus rewarded with a sight of the Princess Laurana, I doubt I should prove but a very lazy Huntsman: I confess, at this time, I design'd not my self so great an Happiness, but staid in civility to this Gentleman, who had otherwise been alone. Then, recommending Oristus to a Kiss of her fair Hand, she modestly gave him a hearty Welcome to her Father's Court, and pursued her Walk.

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Oristus understanding her to be the Princess, thought himself made most happy by this Encounter; and being inform'd by the Lord Rhemus of her Apartment, he took particuilar notice thereof, and so incivility left the Princess to her private Cogitations.

The King and Train returning about Noon, Parismus, who took but small delight in the Pastime of the Morning, came with an amorous Impatience to enquire of Oristus what News, whether he had seen his fair One, or discovered here Apartment. But Oristus, having desired his Highness jestingly to be a little patient, and not to ask two Questions, before he had answered one, gave him a full account of all that had happened, with such high Commendations of the Princess, as had been Flattery of any Woman but herself. With what joyful earnestness Parismus heard him, let the Reader judge; and yet therewith no way satisfied, he almost envied even his dearest Friend so great an Happiness. However, being certified of her Lodging, he resolved within himself to walk there continually in hopes of blessing his Eyes with so Divine a Spectacle. In prosecution of which Design,

taking



taking a small Book out of his Pocket, and dimissing Oristus, he immediatelp repaired to the Carrag-walk, just under her Chamber; and there made several turns, casting an eye much oftner towards her Window, than towards the little Volume he had in his hand, as hoping indeed to se there much the fairer Impression of the two: Laurana by this time opening the Casement, upon some accidental Occasion, and not seeing the Prince, gave him unawares the full View of her Face, which Sight he so eagerly injoyed, that he had almost lost himself in Admiration; as sometimes poor hunger-starv'd Marriners long detained from Food, have devoured their Wheat, at first, so greedily that they have immediatelp perished therewith. But to keep the Prince from surfeiting, Laurana had no sooner espy'd there a strange Knight, but she immediatelp clapt to the Casement, and through the Crevices thereof gave herself the Satisfaction she denied her Lover, who, understanding by his Friend Oristus, that the King waited his Company at Dinner, was forced to quit the Carrag, and betake himself to a Banquet far less delightful than what he there enjoyed.

The

The greatest part of Dinner-time he spent in Contemplation of his late happy Success in enjoying the Sight of his Beloved; the rest he imployed in contriving how he might come to the Speech of her; which, having modelled according to his fancy, he rose as it were abruptly from the Table, and withdrawing himself to his Apartment, sent an Excuse to the King, by one of his Servants, desiring his Majesty's Gracious Pardon for his rude Departure, which he hoped the Indisposition of his Body would excuse. Dionysius, concern'd for the Prince's Sicknels, as soon as Dinner was ended, went to give him a Visit, which Parismus suspecting, he let a Page at his Chamber-door, to acquaint his Majesty, as any else that should come there, that the Prince was in a Lumber, and desired not to be disturbed. This Excuse gave Dionysius satisfaction for the present; and Parismus opportunity to carry on the Design of seeing his Mistress, unsuspected, which he effected in manner following:

C H A P. II.

How *Parismus* discovered his Love to *Laurana* at a Masque, who (to their great Disquiet) is promised by the King, her Father, in Marriage to his Rival *Sicanus*, Son to the Emperour of *Persia*; Letters that passed between *Parismus* and *Laurana*; and the Jealous Envy of *Sicanus*.

**H**AVING understood from his friend *Oristus*, by Information of the Lord *Remus*, that this was *Laurana's* Birth-day, and that the Queen *Oliva* had ordered a Royal Banquet to be prepared for the Entertainment of her Princely Guests, at which *Laurana* was to appear in publick (which she never did but upon such Occasions.) *Parismus* projected with *Oristus*, and some other of the *Bohemian-Court*, to entertain the Company with a Mask, hoping by that Device to attain to the Speech of the Incomparable *Laurana*; to which end he had counterfeited Sickness, to avoid suspicion: This Design being secretly carried on, Supper-time approach'd, which with the Sumptuousness of the Entertainment, and the Presence of the Admir-

red Laurana, gave infinite Satisfaction to the Partakers. And now the Company of the Bohemian Prince seem'd to be the only thing wanting to make their Happiness compleat, especially to the Inestimable Princess, who, not daring to make any Enquiry, wondred that among so many worthy Knights she could not espy the Princely Countenance of that gallant Person she had the same day seen walking in the Carras. While she was in these Contemplations, notice was given, that a set of Masquers were entring to divert that Royal Assembly which, after preparation made, were admitted accordingly; and entred in this manner:

First entred two Moors in white Satin, with Torches or Flambeaux; and after them as many Eunuchs in Cloak of Gold, playing on Wind-musick; then appeared the Illustrious Parismas, in most beautiful Disguise, dancing a Sarabzand; next after him followed Orkus, and after him the Lord Remus with two other Knights of the Bohemian Court, all most richly apparelled, and performing their severall Parts to admiration. But so infinitely surpassing was Parismas, as well in the shape of his

Body

Body, as the excellency of his Motion, that he attracted the eyes of all Spectators, especially Her's whom he most regarded, the matchless Laurana's: To whom, in a submissive manner, he addressed himself, and took her out to dance: Lord Remus took out the Lady Isabella; Oristus another Spartan Lady, &c. so that all together dancing a Figure-dance, the resting-times and intervals Parismus imployed in making himself known to the Lady of his Affections. The Masque ending with the Applause of every judicious and impartial Eye, Dionysius address'd himself to the Masquers, returning them hearty Thanks for the Diversion they had given them; and desiring them to accept of a small Banquet his Daughter had prepared for them upon her Birth-day. This Parismus accepted of with his humble Thanks, not so much for the sake of the Banquet, as for Her that prepar'd it. And therefore, to keep the King no longer in suspense, he pull'd off his Wizard, and discovered himself to be the Bohemian Prince: Parismus! said the King, smiling, I am glad you are so soon recover'd: But now I see the Cause of your Distemper, and cease to wonder at your sudden Sickness and



Departure from Dinner. Which Parismus again excusing, and saluting the whole Company, they all applauded his Princely Behaviour, and Courteous Ingenuity, except the Malicious Sicanus, who immediately quitted the Room with an apparent shew of Dislike and Discontent.

The rest of the Company with-drawing into the Banquetting-house at the Request of Oliva, where they were again most magnificently treated with such Delicates as the Ingenuity of Laurana could invent; with which, tho' Parismus were highly pleased, he could not forbear looking very frequently upon Laurana; by which means, tho' he satisfied his own Curiosity, he robbed the poor Princess of many Opportunities of knowing her Parismus: Nevertheless, she had sometimes the luck to steal a glance, as she thought, undiscerned by any, tho' at the same time the whole Company observed it; which caused many Nobles, especially the Friends of Sicanus, to envy the private Kindness Laurana seem'd to have for the Prince of Bohemia: of which, when they were departed, every one began to make their several Constructions. Thus were Parismus and Laurana



mutually enamour'd each of other, as it were at first Interview, and when they got to their several Apartments, separately conspired to bring about the same End, viz. The farther Enjoyment of each others good Company; the Care of which Laurana committed to Leda, the Cabinet of her Secrets; and Parismus to his trusty Friend Oristus, with whom he consulted about the same matter.

Sicanus in the mean time fretting within himself to see the Princess Laurana shew more Favour to the Prince of Bohemia, than the Heir of Persia, openly declared to Dionysius, 'That the Cause of his coming was, to demand the Princess in Marriage; the King of Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, being come as Embassadors upon the same Account. To whom Dionysius made answer, 'That for his part he should be very glad to have his Daughter married to so Hopeful a Prince, and Himself ally'd to so Mighty an Emperour; promising withal, to propose the same to Laurana, who, he doubted not, would readily enough consent to so Honourable a Marriage. The Princess all this while little imagining what Mischief was plotting against her, spent the Night in contriving

ving which way she might again enjoy  
 the sweet Society of her beloved Parismus;  
 who had no less Disquiet in casting a-  
 bout how to come into the Company of  
 his Laurana: But early in the morning  
 getting out of his Bed, and attiring  
 himself in a careless, but comely Drefs,  
 he repaired again to the old Carras-  
 walk, as the only Expedient he could  
 think of to that purpose: He had not  
 taken many turns, but Laurana had spied  
 him through the Glasse, and dispatching  
 her Maid Leda upon some sleeveless Er-  
 rand into the Garden, she concluded Pa-  
 rismus would have something to say to  
 her, which might be to her Satisfaction.  
 And accordingly it fell out, for as Leda  
 was gathering a Posie of the pret-  
 tiest and choicest flowers, Parismus sa-  
 luted her with a courteous Good-morrow  
 and demanded how fared her Lady the  
 Princess: who, returning thanks for his  
 kind Enquiry, satisfied him, that she  
 was in good health. 'I pray you, Dam-  
 sel, said he, present her with this Pa-  
 per, and the Service of one Parismus;  
 if it may not be too great a Presumpti-  
 on in me, nor too great a Trouble to  
 yourself. 'I am confident, said Leda  
 no Message from your Highness will  
 ever

'ever be look'd upon as Presumption by the Princess, or seem a Trouble to your unworthy Servant. Whereupon Gliding into her hand a Present of no small Value, he dismissed her, and again betook himself to his Walk in expectation of the Event. Laurana having observed Parisinus to give Leda a Paper, imagined it was for herself, and being impatient to see the contents, met her at the Stair-foot, and, suddenly breaking it open, she read these words:

Most excellent Madam,

**I**F the Contents of this Paper be a Presumption, it is the Excess of my Love that has occasion'd it, so that my Fault must be my Excuse; but if Love be a Fault, how great a Criminal is Parisinus? Pardon me, Madam, that I dare be so confident once more to beg the Favour of Kissing your Royal Hand, at such a Time and Place as your Highness shall think most convenient; for, since the Unhappy Minute of your Departure, I have not enjoy'd the least thought to my Satisfaction, but the Remembrance of having once seen you, and the Resolution of ever being, Madam,

Your's at Command,

PARISMUS.

Laurana, glad of so fair an Opportunity, at the same time, to oblige a Man that loved her, and enjoy the Company of him she loved, thought no time like the present to give him an Answer; and observing him to walk under her Window, in seeming expectation thereof, sent him this short Reply:

Most Noble Prince,

**I** Look upon your Love to be like yourself, Honourable; and, if so, neither is it in itself a Fault, nor to tender it, Presumption: My Maid will tell you at what Time and Place you may expect to meet me, which is an Argument of the Confidence reposed in you, by

L A U R A N A.

Joyful at the Receipt of this welcome and unexpected Answer, Parismus thought himself amply recompenc'd for the Misfortune he conceived to himself in not having bless'd his Eyes with the Sight of the Angelical Laurana, and having humbly returned his Service by Leda, he made haste to his friend Oristus, as well to acquaint him of the Happiness

pinels that had befallen him, as to avoid the Censure of suspicious Eyes, who might otherwise guess at his Design in walking under Laurana's Window; for, by this time, every body was stirring about the House; and Dionysius had sent for his Daughter in order to the fore-mentioned Match of Sicanus. Laurana coming with all Submission to know the Pleasure of her King and Father, was soon welcomed with the unwelcome News of Sicanus's Love, which Dionysius propos'd with all the seeming Advantages that could be imagined, but in so mild a manner, that he seem'd not to use the Authority of a King, but the Indulgence of a Father; insomuch, that though the thing propos'd was most unwelcome to her Ears, she receiv'd the same with as obedient a Sweetness, as if she had been ready to grant her Consent: whereupon Dionysius, leaving Laurana to consider of it, went in person to Sicanus, and gave him all imaginable Encouragement, making that day a general Entertainment, on purpose that Sicanus might find an opportunity of expressing his Love to Laurana.

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Dinner being ready, it so fortun'd, that Parismus was seated just opposite to the Princess, and Sicanus a pretty way below her on the same side, so that while the one had the Opportunity of viewing her Perfections in their most resplendant Lustre, the other had only now and then a Side-view of her Face; and while Parismus entertain'd her with pleasing (but common) Discourse, Sicanus was so imprudent to imagine he had been making Love. Thus did his Gall boyl within him for the Malice he bare to Parismus, against whom he vow'd perpetual Enmity from that very Hour. Nevertheless, after Dinner, by the King's means, he found an Opportunity of discoursing Laurana, and manifesting his Passion after the best manner he could; but so short it came of that Vigour and Sincerity she discerned in the Love of Parismus, that, in spite of her courteous and obliging Nature, she was forced to receive it with a civil Indifference, and to quit his Company in a manner little better than scornful.

Eliz Boock      C H A P.  
her Boock



C H A P. III.

How *Sicanus* hired three *Tartarians* to Murther *Parisinus*, who, treacherously setting upon him in a Wood, left him for Dead, buried in Leaves and Moss; the Grief for his Loss, with the Discovery of the Treason; *Sicanus's* Flight; *Dionysius*, as a Pilgrim, travels to *Botrinnia*, and, at last, declares himself to *Parisinus's* Father.

**P**ARISINUS, little imagining what had past, began with some Impatience to expect the happy Hour of *Laurana's* Appointment, which being come, and the two Lovers met accordingly, we will leave them in the Arbour in mutual (but honourable) Embraces, and speak a little of the Malice and Treason of *Sicanus*, who, the same Evening, calling to him three *Tartarians* of his Vassalage, after a great Injunction of Secrecy, and Promise of Reward, made them promise to kill *Parisinus* at a time they should find most convenient, which he doubted not to bring to pass in few days. All things being agreed upon, *Sicanus* betook himself to rest, and poor *Parisinus* having by this time taken his

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unwelcome leave of Laurana, repaired likewise to his Chamber; where, having taken Rest proportionable to the Comfort he received from the Princess, he was ready with the earliest the next Morning to go a Hawking, it being a Match of Sicanus's making, on purpose to draw him into the Field: but the Morning proving somewhat hazy, and unfit for that kind of Exercise, most of the Company would have put off the Match till another day; but so importunate was Sicanus, that in complaisance to his humour they must go, tho' many of them (especially Parismus) much against their wills: they had but little Pastime all the Morning, till at last springing an Eye of Pheasants in a large Champaign, they flew a Cast of Goshawks, one of which immediately took a young Pult at the Pounce, the other undertaking the old Hen, flew her into a large Wood, at a great distance under the Wind; this none observed but Parismus, who rode upon speed, and was followed by the Tartarians; who, taking that opportunity, unarm'd as he was, and dismounted in the thickest of the Wood, fell upon him, and gave him many Wounds, one of which, in humane reason, had been enough

enough to have destroyed the stoutest heart breathing; at last, concluding him fully dead, they buried him with Leaves and Shells, and return'd unsuspected to the Company.

Their Sport being now past the best, and even then not good, the King began to invite them homewards, and missing Parismus, wonder'd where he might be; but all concluding him driven to the Court by stress of Weather, for the present they made no further search: nevertheless, Oristus's Heart misgave him lest some mischance might have befallen him, so that coming to the Palace, and not hearing the least News of him, he would not stay to Dine, but, with the rest of the Bohemian Knights, immediately posted every way in quest of their Lord and Master; in so much that the whole City of Thebes rung of the absence of Parismus; Night came, and Oristus with the other Knights return'd, but no News of Parismus; whereupon, after three days search, finding his Horse loose upon the Plains of Pharsalia, they all give him over for lost. How dreadfully this News sounded in the Ears of the tender-hearted Princess, let any Reader judge who hath

hath but read of the Vertues of Laurana, and the Merits of Parismus: Ah, Leda, said she, never to love but once! and to be thus cross'd, and that so soon; unhappie Laurana. More she said to the same purpose, that is, to none at all; for Parismus was neither to be re-call'd by the Complaints of his Laurana, nor the Endeavours of Oristus; so that instead of Mirth and Jollity, nothing but Grief and Melancholly now filled the Thessalian Court.

Sicanus, the bloody Author of all this Villany, dissembled as much grief for the loss of Parismus as any of the rest; and, having rewarded the barbarous Tartarians with a Thousand Crowns, he began to think himself as secure from discovery, as he was free from suspicion; but so it happened, that the Villains, disagreeing about dividing the Money, one of them struck the other so mortal a stroke, that in short time he died thereof; but upon his Death-bed confessed to Oristus the manner of Parismus's end; as also, that himself, with two others, were hired by Sicanus to that purpose. Oristus repaired immediately to Sicanus, and, in presence of the King, taxed him with his Treachery.

cherp; to which having little to say, he immediately drew a Dagger, and had like to have slain his just Accuser; Whereupon there grew a Tumult betwixt the Persian and Bohemian Knights, which Dionysius himself had much ado to appease. At last, Sicanus, betwixt fear and shame, having lost three of his Followers in the Skirmish, quitted the Court, and fled into his own Country, resolving to return with Power, and demand the Lady, he had not Rhetorick enough to perswade.

Dionysius putting all things together, and considering the slender Account he should be able to give the King of Bohemia, for the Murder of Parismus, in suffering the Author thereof to scape out of his Court, took upon him the Habit of a Pilgrim, and fled disguised into Bohemia, to find in what manner the King resented the Death of his Son. Hence began new Troubles in the Court of Thebes; for, missing the King at Dinner, Olivia sent Messengers every way to seek him, who many times met him, but could never find him, for they enquired for him even of himself. Dionysius, after some days, arriving in Bohemia, took him a poor Lodg-  
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ing neer the Court, whither he daily resorted, and heard sad Complaints for the loss of Parismus, but still with respect to the Court of Thebes, and the Hospitality of Dionysius. But after some days, being mistrusted by his Landlord for some greater person than he appeared, it was thought fit to acquaint the Secretary therewith, who, imagining he might be some Spy, caused him to be brought before the King. Whereupon, desiring Audience in private, he was forced to unbolome himself to his Majesty, declaring his great Sorrow for the Death of Parismus, and desiring his Majesty's gracious assistance in revenging so horrid a Murder upon Sicanus, the Author thereof.

The King of Bohemia, having recovered himself out of the Surprize he was in at the first, embraced Dionysius, and promised him his utmost assistance, whereupon he was prevailed with to stay in Bohemia certain days.

*Eliz: Beech*

CHAP.



C H A P. IV.

**Sicanus** invades **Thessaly**: The King of **Bohemia** and **Hungary** come to relieve it. The wonderful Exploits of the Black Knight. The Fortune to the War referr'd to a Combat, which the Black Knight, by Letter, promises to undertake, on the behalf of **Laurana**.

**S**icanus being return'd into **Persia**, complained of divers Injuries and Affronts offer'd him in the Court of **Dionysius**, whence he hardly escaped with the loss of three of his Attendants; whereupon he desired the King his Father to levy Forces, and to go against **Dionysius**, to revenge the Wrong he had done him. The King, giving credit to **Sicanus**, and jealous of the Honour of **Persia**, called to him the Aid of divers contributory Princes, and raised a mighty Army, consisting of near two hundred thousand Men, which he soon shipp'd in a vast Navy, and landed upon the Confines of **Thessaly**.

News thereof being brought to the Queen by a poor Fisherman that was abroad at Sea, she was in sad distress, and committed the care of her Kingdom, during

during the absence of Dionysius, to the Lord Remus, who, with the Train-bands, and County-troops, made what haste he could to resist them, and so ordered the matter, that, e'er they could land so vast an Army, he had slain near twenty thousand of them. This Success encouraged him to hope for a greater Victory, yet, nevertheless, he durst not stand them Battell, but made an honourable retreat towards the City, while the Persians encamp'd in the Plains of Pharsalia; the next day they approach'd and begitt the City of Thebes on every side, laying close Siege thereto, and resolved, either by Famine or Storm, to force them to a Surrender.

Oliva, Laurana, and the rest, with swollen Eyes and a heavy Heart, beholding the Murderer of Parismus, and the Authoz of Dionysius's absence, as it were in triumph before the Walls, were uttering sad Complaints of their miserable Estate, when behold a Knight in Black Armour (whom therefore they termed the Black Knight) came out in full career, and waving his Sword thrice over his head, dared the whole Army of Persia to single combat. Wherrein he was successful, even to admiration: for, after

a gallant overthrow of two Persians, Horse and all, he was the third time encountered by one Bruster, a huge proportioned Man, and the Champion of Persia, who met the Black Knight with such violence, that they shivered their Lances, and forced him to quit one of his Stirrups, while Bruster himself was beaten back upon his Horse's Crupper. No sooner had they recovered their Seats, but both drew their Swords, and began a very fierce Combat: which, after a sharp dispute, ended in conquest on the Black Knight's side, for Bruster, having lost the hilt of his Sword-arm, turned tail and fled towards the Camp, which so amazed Sicannus and all the Persians, that they esteemed the Black Knight to be rather a Devil than a Man, seeing that after three such dangerous Combats, he stood unmoved, brandishing his Sword, and bidding defiance to Persia.

On the other side, the Queen and Princess seeing what Wonders he had done in their behalf, not knowing of whence he was, sent a Page to invite him into the City; but he returning his Duty and Service, especially to the Princess, courteously refused their Invitations,

for Reasons he might possibly live to declare by word of mouth. This Message being return'd, their Wonder encreas'd who this Black Knight should be, but guessing, could no way add to their satisfaction, since none could resolve them tho' they should happen to guess the right.

The next day there was News of the Arrival of the King of Bohemia, King of Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, who being severally incensed with the baseness of Sicanus's Treachery, came with fresh Supplies to the Succour of Thebes, whereupon, both the Persians and the Thessalians foreseeing great slaughter like to ensue, they drew up their several Armies in Battalia, and came to a Parley, the event of which was, to decide the Controversie by Combat of three Knights of either side, upon condition, that if the Persian Knights overcame, then was Dionysius to deliver up his fair Daughter in Marriage to Sicanus, and himself become subject to the Persian Crown; but if the Thessalian Knights got the better, then were the Persians immediately to quit the Siege, and Sicanus upon his Honour to declare what he knew concerning the Death of Parismus.

These

These Articles drawn up and agreed to on both sides, there were twenty days allowed, for preparing every thing in readyness against the Day of Combat, and in the mean time a Truce made, that no Act of Hostility might be offered, but such as were voluntary.

During this Interval, several Feats of Arms were performed daily at Tilts and Turnaments between the two Armies, which afforded Pastime to the Ladies of the Court, who took great delight in beholding the activity and success of the Black Knight: but, at last, it so happened; that one Pollipus of the Persian Forces, riding up to the Black Knight, and couching his Lance, gave him fair warning to receive him, which, contrary to every bodys expectation, he refused to do, but turned his Horse-head short about; Pollipus wondering at his refusal, resolved to know the cause, but, because he would not be seen to commune with an Enemy in private, he watch'd his opportunity till the Evening, at which time, seeing him riding out of the Field, he made up to him, and desired to know the reason he refused him the same Pastime he had vouchsafed other Knights? Because (said he) you

wear the Armour of Pollipus of Phrygia, my trusty friend. That Pollipus, said he, am I, who only beg to know, how I come to deserve so honourable a Title? and who you are that vouchsafe it me? For that, said the Black Knight, it may be time enough anon; in the mean time, if you please to partake with me in my poor Quarters, perhaps I may communicate to you something worth your knowledge, tho' I can entertain you with nothing worth your acceptance. Of which Invitation Pollipus willingly accepted, partly to be satisfied who it might be, but chiefly for the Honour he bore him, and the delight he took in his Company.

In the mean time the Theban Court rung with joy for the return of Dionysius, who by this time was entered with the King of Bohemia, Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, whom he there entertain'd most splendidly, consulting with them about erecting Scaffolds, and making other Preparations against the Day of Combat. And while they were proposing Lord Remus, Oristus, and others, for the Combatants, a comely Virgin, named Dina, arrived at the Court, richly attired like a Forrest-Nymph, and bearing



ing in her hand an Escutcheon, whereon was the lively Portraiture of a dying Knight, wounded by Slaves and buried in a Wood. Being admitted into the presence, she humbly did her Obedience, and said she had a Message to deliver to the Princess Laurana: being readily call'd, she was presented with the Escutcheon, upon which were engraved these Verses:

Since Victory on Vertue still attends,  
Doubt not, fair Princess, of successful  
[ Friends ;  
To a strange Knight, revenge of right be-  
[ longs,  
As well for yours, as your Parisinus  
[ wrongs;  
Sent by the God of Love to end the strife,  
And raise the dead Parisinus unto life.

Having again and again perus'd these mystical Lines, she knew not what Construction to put upon them, or what Answer readily to return. But so generously likes the Offer, that in civility she could do no less than accept of him for her Champion, tho' he promised such Impossibilities. Therefore, desiring the fair Messenger to return the Knight un-

known her humble Thanks for the tender of his Service, she dismiss her, with a rich Scarf, to be presented to the Knight, and a costly Jewel for her self. Dina being gone, left the Court full of Joy for the News she brought, and of Wonder, who this Knight should be that had so nobly undertaken the Princess's Quarrel. However, in civility, they scorned to watch whither she went, but resolved, with patience, to expect the Issue.

## C H A P. V.

The dreadful Battel between the six Knights, wherein the Black Knight and his Party obtain'd the Victory; and discovers himself to be Parisinus, wonderfully preserv'd by the Out-laws.

**T**He time appointed being come, and as well the Persian as Thessalian Nobles being seated upon several Scaffoldes, in equal expectation of Success, the Knights of Persia entered the Lists, the first of whom was the valiant Zoilus, attired all in Red, and mounted upon a Sorrel Steed; then the two valiant Brethren of Bruster, Brandor, and Ramon, came galloping in so triumphant

phant a manner, as if they had already been victorious: several times they rode about the Lists, and wondred to see no Enemy at hand; whereupon the Persians began to give a mighty Shout, which so dismayed the Thessalians, they knew not what to say, but began to think the Message brought by Dina, to have been a Trick put upon them by the Enemy. At last, after near an Hour's expectation, they beheld three Knights in silver'd Armour coming towards them upon a Hand-gallop, who soon entered the Lists, and declared for the Thessalians. Their Apparel and Plumes were all white, their Staves, Caparisons and Furniture all alike, without the least distinction, save that one of them had on the Scarf Laurana sent him, and was therefore called the Prince's's Champion.

Dionysius, on the one hand, descending from his Chair of State, gave them thanks for their readiness to engage in his Quarrel, and promised great Rewards, if it so pleased the Gods to grant them Victory. The Knight with the Scarf, on the other hand, declaring the great delight he took in so honourable a Cause, vowed, that could he be so  
for

fortunate to serve the Princess Laurana, the Honour gained thereby would be a greater Reward than the Crown of Thessaly; these Ceremonies being pass'd, and the King reinstated, the Trumpets sounded a Charge, and the Combat began. The Knight with the Scarf encountred Zoilus; Pollipus, Brandor; and the Out-law, Ramon; amongst whom was shewn as much Courage and Agility as could be expected, their Spears being all shiver'd at the first on-set, they presently drew, and dealt about such fierce and fatal blows, that in short time the Out-law fell dead from his Horse, whereat the Persians began a great shout, which they had no sooner ended, but Ramon coming to the assistance of Zoilus, had the misfortune to be run clean through the throat, and died immediately; Pollipus and Brandor fought a long time upon equal terms, but the Knight with the Scarf had much the advantage of Zoilus, who summoning all his strength, he at last smote with such fury, that he fell from his Horse, whereupon the Assembly gave so great a shout, that the Earth seem'd to quake, for there being two of the Thessalians left to one of the Persians, the Viccoyp was adjudged to the Thessalians.

Here

Hereupon the King of Persia, according to agreement, commanded his Army immediately to withdraw, and Sicanus, upon his Honour, to declare the truth of Parismus, according to the best of his knowledge: Who thereupon replied, 'By the Reverence I owe to my Lord and Father, with the rest of this Honourable Assembly, I denounce him for a Villain and a Traytor, that does accuse me for the Murder of Parismus; for, by all the Powers of Heaven, I know nothing thereof, nor have been any way accessory thereto. In like Reverence to this Honourable Assembly, said the Knight in the Scarf, I return that Villain and Traytor upon thy self; for that thou didst hire three Tartarians to murder him, who, as he was a Hawking, set upon him in a Wood, and in barbarous manner run him in several places through the Body, of which I my self am witness, who found him in that deplorable condition; all which I stand ready to justify; and therefore, as thou art a Knight and honourest Arms, shew thy Innocence by thy Courage. Sicanus, enraged hereat, seemingly accepted of the Challenge, and withdrew to prepare him-

himself: In the mean time the Thessalian Nobles, especially the Princess Laura-na, considering the Wounds he had received, entreated him not to engage in a second Combat. To whom he reply'd, 'Madam, if it be your Highness's pleasure, that the Wrongs of Parismus shall go unrevenge'd, I most humbly submit; but I know, Madam, you are more generous, and therefore must beg your pardon. Whereupon, giving him as it were consent against her will, Sicanus (as was supposed) entered the Lists, whom the wounded Knight at the first on-set unhors'd, having broken two of his Ribs, and the Company unlacing his Helmet to give him breath, found that it was not really Sicanus, but a person he had hired in his stead, which was so ill resented by the whole Assembly, that they all concluded him guilty, and the King of Persia disowned him for his Son, so that betwixt grief and shame in short time after he died.

But the Victors, being carried in great triumph through the City, and presented with many rich Gifts, at last arriv'd at the Court; where, being received with all imaginable Honour and Acclamations, they were set down in  
Chairs



Chairs of State, the chiefest of the King's Physicians being sent for to dress their Wounds. Coming to take off the Knight in the Scarf's Armour, it was found to be cas'd over artificially with Silver, and under it black Armour, so that then he was discovered to be the Black Knight, whom they thought to have been dead of his Wounds in the Combat with Bruster. Whereupon Dionysius embracing him afresh, left the uncasing of him to the King of Bohemia, as the greatest honour; which the Black Knight would by no means suffer, but humbly kneeling, desired his Majesty to grant him one favour, which being consented to, he intreated his gracious Pardon for the Murderers of Parismus. But being ask, why he should make so unreasonable a Demand; Because, said he, Parismus is yet in good health. Upon which words he immediately discover'd himself, to the joy and wonder of all there present. And then he at large related the story of his miraculous preservation by certain Out-laws, who accidentally finding his wounded Body in the Wood, they carefullly convey'd him to their Cave, and chose him (after his recovery) for their General.

*This*

This Story seem'd at first so incredible, that they hardly durst give credit to their eyes, but every circumstance being fully related and consider'd, they were all as it were swallowed up with wonder for a time; but, at last, joy prevailed, and the King would have sent for Laurana once more to have welcomed the same Person, though under a different Character; but Parismus, the more to surprize the Princess, desired he might be the Messenger himself; to which the King easily consented, and he was conducted to her Apartment; accordingly Parismus, with the Lord Remus, coming to the Princess's Lodgings, found the Door fast, and imagining she might be private, stood still a while, for fear of giving her a disturbance; but, after a very short pause, they heard her tune up her Lute, beginning in a Solemn Air, and most Angelical Voice, the following Song:

**K**ind Knight, I know thy Promise was vain,  
To bring Parismus back to Life again,  
And yet how much is to thy Courage due?  
Who nobly didst his Murtherer subdue;

For 'tis a part of happiness to be  
 Deliver'd from Misfortunes we foresee.  
 All, but my Heart, I give as a Reward.  
 No Knight so mean a Present would regard;  
 It bleeds, it pants, so shattered is and torn,  
 It merits not acceptance now, but scorn;  
 Yet poor *Parismus* shall this Present have,  
 Which I shall shortly carry to his Grave.

So Passionate were her Words, and  
 so Divine her Voice, that *Parismus* could  
 contain himself no longer, but roundly  
 knock'd at the Door, which *Leda* having  
 opened, he entred with the Lord *Remus*:  
*Leda* shriek'd, and the Princess fell in a  
 Trance, absolutely imagining she had  
 seen the Ghost of *Parismus*. But, after a  
 long time, Lord *Remus* had much ado to  
 bring her to herself, and to persuade  
 her to the truth of what she saw. Twen-  
 ty times she examin'd her senses, to  
 know if she were awake, and at last be-  
 ing fully convinced by a touch of his  
 warm Lips, that he was really and in-  
 deed the living *Parismus*, 'tis impossible  
 to say which was greatest, her Joy, or  
 her Wonder. So that after an hour's  
 contemplation of each others Happi-  
 ness, the Princess, in pity to his  
 Wounds, conducted him into the Pre-  
 sence.

sence-Chamber, and there openly declar'd her Affection to him, desiring the care of him might be committed to her charge, till he was perfectly recovered. This she did in so gallant and generous a manner, that none could tax her with the least immodesty for so doing. Inasmuch that Dionysius readily granted her request, and promised to consummate her Happiness in Nuptial Bonds, as soon as Parismus should be recovered of his Wounds, which was not long after.

## C H A P. VI.

The Marriage of Parismus and Laura-na; going towards Bohemia, he, by treachery, is left with Pollipus and Violetta (disguis'd as a Page) in the Desolate Island: she is carried by the Tyrant Andramart to the Island of Rocks, where, in great affliction, she is delivered of Parismenos, whom they threatned to murder, if she would not submit to the Tyrant's Lust, but is preserved by his Nurse: The Enchantment of the Desolate Island dissolv'd, &c.

**A**ND now the Marriage of these two Illustrious Persons being solemnized

nized with a Magnificence becoming the bounty of Dionysius, and the merit of that Royal Pair; they spent some days in the Court of Dionysius, with unexpressible Satisfaction, esteeming each others Happiness beyond the reach, even of the most adverse Fortune. But, alas, the best of Men, and greatest of Princes are equally (and perhaps more) subject to the frowns of adverse Fate, than the meanest Peasant: For by this time the King of Bohemia's Affairs requiring his return into his own Country, it was requisite that Parismus and his Princess should attend him; whereupon great preparation, and sorrow, being made for their Departure, at the time press'd, they took a sad and solemn Leave of the Court of Thebes; Dionysius with all his Nobles attended them to the Frontiers of his Dominions, and returned with Grief for the loss of so good Company.

But it must not be forgotten, that Polypus, who resolv'd to accompany Parismus into Bohemia, during his residence in Thebes, chanced to be enamoured of a Merchant's only Daughter, named Viletta; but she out of a private Kindness he bore to the Prince, notwithstanding his Marriage, and the impossibility of enjoy-

enjoying him, resolved to seek her Fortune with him in Bohemia; to which end attiring herself in the habit of a Page, she came to Court, and soon got admittance into the Prince's Service, so that in short time they got to the Port, and soon set sail for Bohemia: but the Vessels being small Batches or Pleasure-boats, and their Attendance numerous, it was thought fit that Parismus, Laurana, Polli-pus, Leda and Violetta (now called Adonius) should go in one Batch, and the King of Bohemia, with his Attendants, in another: long they had not sailed, but so fierce a Tempest arose, that the Ships soon lost one another, and the Prince's Mariners being strongly driven to the Leeward, and in danger of stranding, cut their Shrouds, and took off their Masts by the board; but the King's Ship, whether from the skill of the Seamen, or ability of the Vessel, stood away to the Wind-ward, and tho' with some difficulty, made the Coast of Bohemia. Parismus and Laurana being a Comfort to each other in their Distress, began to think all Danger blown over with the Tempest, but were soon deceiv'd by the approach of certain Pirates, who soon boarded them under the assurance of Com-

quest



quest, but by the irresistible Power of Parismus, Pollipus, and the rest, they met with so sharp a Repulse, that they were soon brought in Subjection, many of them being slain, and the rest clapt under the Patches; wherefore, by advice of the Seamen, it was decreed to take out such Goods as were of value, and with them to go aboard the Pyrate's Ship; this being done with equal courage and success, Parismus ordered some of his Men to go ashore, and take a little fresh water for fear of the worst, which accordingly they did, himself, Pollipus and Adonius accompanying them, a little to refresh themselves upon that pleasant Shore; no sooner had the Pyrates notice of this Advantage, but presently they broke up the Patches, surprizing and securing the Seamen Parismus had left aboard, and sinking the Prince's Patch, to prevent pursuit, set sail for the Island of Rocks, to which they belong'd; Parismus, with the rest ashore, seeing his Disaster, would have done any thing to stop them in their flight; but being sensible that doing violence to himself was not a means of offering a-  
up to them, with great wisdom (I cannot say much patience) he attended the

Vessel with his eye, while she was within ken, and afterwards with Prayers for the safety of Laurana, who, poor Lady, was all this while insensible of her Misfortune, and only wonder'd at the tedious absence of her Lord; Parismus, Polipus and Adonius, in this distress knew not what courage to take, and therefore resolv'd to stay ashore, and hale the next Vessel, while the Mariners espying a Sinoak made that way in hopes of succour: but the Prince having spent the remaining part of the day in a thousand Complaints of his own inadvertency, blaming Fortune for faults himself was guilty of, and himself for such as it was too late to repent of; at last in the close of the Evening, an aged Man, in mean attire, came up, and courteously saluted him with his Associates, and began as follows: Gentlemen, I perceive you are Strangers brought hither by stress of Weather, otherwise you would never have landed upon so dangerous a Coast.

Truly Father, said Parismus, you guess aright, but wherein, I pray, lies the danger of the Coast?

Gentlemen, said he, if you will vouchsafe to accept a poor Lodging in a Hermit's Cell, I will acquaint you with the Story more at large,

large, where in mean safety you may pass away the night, which else on this Shore may be hazardous. To this they thankfully consented, and departed with the Hermit.

The poor Princess all the while knew not of her being a Prisoner, till she came to land at the Island of Rocks, where finding herself in a strange place, without the comfort of her Lord, she began grievously to afflict herself; but Andramart, a great Tyrant, and Governour of that Island, having notice of that beautiful Prize, came and courteously invited her into his Castle, and there us'd her in most obliging manner, hoping thereby to gain her to his lustful will, but finding fair means ineffectual, he sent his Sister Adamasia, who reproaching her in most ignominious sort, torturing her with many whips, and not allowing her other than Leda Necessaries for Life, in such sort that she had well nigh perished: Nevertheless, the vertuous Princess stood unmov'd, and would never submit to Andramart's lust: thus for many months she lived, till at her time it pleased the Goddess Lucina to deliver her of a Son, whom she named Parismenos, and put it out to Nurse. Then came

the cruel Adamasia, and vow'd that unless she would yield to Andramart's love, she would murder the Infant before her face. Nevertheless, she committed her Vertue to the care of Heaven, and utterly refused to give her Consent. The Nurse hearing thereof, and having a tender love for so sweet a Babe, fled with it into the Wilderness, and there preserved it many Years.

Return we now to Parismus, who by this time had understood that place to be called the Desolate Island, of which the said Hermit was once King, but was supplanted by Bellona, a Sorceress, and driven to live in that mean estate; so having given an account at large, he desired them to accept of his hard bed to refresh themselves for that night, which for a time, in civility, they refused, but with much importunity at last accepted of. The climate and season somewhat cold, they put Adonius in the middle, who, poor heart! with a trembling kind of joy lay all night between her beloved Parismus and her loving Pollipus, that little imagin'd who they had to their Bed-fellow. So mean was their Lodging, and so Great their grief, that Parismus spent most of the night in sad Complaints,

for the Absence of his Laurana, and Pollipus for the Unkindness of his Violetta; but the morning approaching, they all arose, and, by direction of the Hermit, went towards the Castle, notwithstanding his earnest intreaties to the contrary. Having viewed the Castle, stoutly scituated upon a high Rock, they heard the ringing of a small Bell, and in short time espied six Knights, in bright Armour, ferrying over the Shoat: Parismus with Pollipus, knowing they should be assaulted, received them at their landing, and that with much magnanimity and success, that some fell back into the water and were drown'd, others lay dead upon the spot, and the rest submitted themselves. This news being carried into the Castle, Bellona herself came out to meet them with a smiling and pleasant Countenance, whom Parismus took to be some beautiful Prisoner of the Castle, but as he courteously addressed himself to her, she had that power with her Enchantment, to cause a deep sleep to come upon them all, and commanded forthwith that they should be carried Prisoners into the Castle. When their senses were again restored, they were strangely surpris'd to find them-

selves fast shut in a Dungeon, and load-  
ed with heavy Irons, having no other  
comfort left them but their Prayers to  
Heaven, and Complaints to one another.  
Here they continued many months un-  
der as much hardship as the Cruelty of  
a Tyrant could inflict, for Drubal, Para-  
mour to Bellona, often sent for them be-  
fore him, causing them to be tortur'd in  
divers manners, and taking delight in  
their afflictions. But the Enchantress  
seeing the Resolution of Parismus, and the  
Comeliness of his Person, began to en-  
tertain lustful thoughts for him, which  
she resolved to satiate, though with the  
loss of her Life: So that giving Dru-  
bal a Stupefactive Potion, she addressed  
herself in obliging manner to Parismus,  
causing his Fetters to be taken off, and  
desiring him to walk with her in the Gar-  
den: Parismus wondring at this strange  
alteration, resolved to see the event there-  
of, and being come into a pleasant Wil-  
derness, he soon apprehended her lustful  
Inclinations, and yielding a seeming  
compliance therewith, he at last took his  
opportunity, and seizing her by the hair  
of the head, twisted her neck in such sort,  
that he set her face behind, whereof she  
immediately died.

This



This being done, a strange Tempest of Thunder and Lightning arose, which made the very Earth to tremble, and the Enchantment being broke, there appeared a mighty Smoke about the Castle, which immediately vanished, and left them, as it were, in plain ground. After this, the place seem'd fill'd with Fiends and damned Spirits, who in hideous sort began to torture Drubal, with his Servants and Officers, insomuch, that for a time there was nothing to be heard but the groans and pells of damned Souls, enough to have terrified the hardiest Knight upon the Earth. Nevertheless, Parismus with an immovable Courage returned to find out Pollipus and Adonius, whose Fetters were suddenly fallen off, and they in a strange amazement looking about them, but seeing Parismus in safety, they congratulated each others happy Deliverance, and returned their Thanks to Heaven that had so miraculously wrought the same. The rest of the Prisoners likewise understanding that they owed their Deliverance to Parismus, came in courteous manner and returned him their humble Thanks; among whom was the Wife and Children of Antiochus the Hermit, who were by  
this

this means restor'd to their Kingdom; which ever after they quietly enjoy'd, rendring the same commodacions for Ships, and hospitable for Strangers, which for some yeares had been ruined and desolate, avoided by Mankind as Ominous and Unfortunate.

Antiochus in gratitude to these worthy Knights, entertained them for some time courteously in his Palace, and at their request hung out a Flag of Truce to invite Ships into that Port; Parismus hoping by that means to find an opportunity of going in Pursuit of his Laurana. At last a Vessel of Hungary, under the Conduct of Barzikus, put ashore, and at the request of Parismus, with a promise of great Reward, stay'd there for some days, till he had prepared all things in readines for the Voyage, and in solemn manner taken Leave of that Court.

C H A P. VII

**Parismus** arrives at the **Island of Rocks**, kills **Andramart**, and with his **Laurana** joyfully arrives in **Bohemia**; with other Matters, &c.

**T**hey had not sailed many Leagues to the Northward, but near the same place where they were first attacked, they were again boarded by the same Pirates, whom likewise after a fierce Engagement they once more subdued; but considering their former treachery, Parismus thought good to put the greater part of them to the Sword; sparing only some few to give him an account of the Princess, and conduct him to the place where she was. Whereupon one of them giving him the story at large, as has been before related, Parismus with Pollipus and Adonius, were overjoyed to hear of the Princess's Safety, and resolved to free her from Imprisonment, or die in the Attempt: this Resolution the Gods seemed to favour, for coming to the Castle-gate, they found Andramart just alighted from Hunting, with some six Servants, whom after a sharp Dispute, Parismus, with the help of Pollipus, and

and Barzillus, flew and subdued, and taking the Keys from Andramart, who would trust none therewith in his absence, they entered the Castle in Triumph, surprizing and slaying the Servants of Andramart at their pleasure.

And now the main business was to find out the Princess Laurana, whom after a tedious and diligent Search they met with, in a room no way fitted to her condition, but for its solitariness: She was leaning her head against the bosom of Leda, with winged hands and blubber'd eyes, uttering nothing but the sweet Name of her beloved Parismus. Much ado there was to make these two (once more happy Lovers) sensible of so blessed a Change, but at last fill'd with the joyful apprehensions of each others safety, they spent the time in a most refined and spotless Enjoyment of each other. By this time Parismus having understood the cruel Usage Laurana met with, and the supposed Murder of Parismenos, he revenged himself by the cruel death of Adamasia, the Author thereof, and returned into his own Country; but with what Joy these long absent Princes were received in the Bohemian Court, no Pen is able to express, nor any Reader sufficiently

ently able to comprehend; every one striving who should express the greatest Satisfaction for the Return of a Prince and Princess whose Fame and Vertues were in all places loudly spoken of, with Honour, Praise, and the highest Commendations imaginable. King Dionysius with his Queen welcomed them, and caused Musick, and costly Banquets, and proclaiming of a general Joyning thro' all his Kingdom for ten days, to speak the rest of his Contentment for the happy Arrival of this Princely Pair: none but the Father of Violetta, for the absence of his dear Daughter, was sad in all that Country, yet he had not that cause to be so, but by mistake, for she he thought absent was present, disguised in the Habit of a Page, under the name of Adonius, and grieved to see him in that Sorrow, labouring to Comfort him, telling him he knew his Daughter would soon arrive at Court, for he had seen her in his Travels, and the same of those Festivals, she being at liberty and in health, would no doubt soon bring her there; this a little dried up his aged Tears, though till a fitter time he resolved not to discover herself to him, or any other.

King

King Dionysius, now the excess of Joy being somewhat abated, had leisure to hear the Travels and strange Adventures of Parismus and Laurana, which the noble Prince told him in order from his first departure, till his happy return, as has been related, recommending to him his friend Pollipus as the most generous of all Knights; whom the King embraced and welcomed with such tenderness, as if he had been his own Son, for which he returned him all humble Thanks; but his mind was so taken up with the supposed loss of his fair Violetta, in search of whom he resolved to travel the World once more, that the Pleasures of the Court, and the Carresses he met with there, had no great influence on him. Yet to this general rejoicing came many Gallant Knights and Ladies; here the valiant Tellemore found his Sister, in whose search he had spent much time, and run a thousand dangers and hazards, which greatly rejoiced him.

Whilst all these things happened, the Princess, Laurana, often retired and wept in secret for the loss of her Infant, which she had left in the Isle of Rocks; and the Parismenos laboured to comfort her, yet



nothing could prevail with her, to put the Idea of it out of her tender heart: sometimes she wished she had dyed herself to have saved it, concluding it must be dead; at other times, she flatters herself, that the protection of Innocents was the peculiar care of Heaven. But at length, being brought to bed of a fair Daughter, which she named Lauria, her Sorrows began to lessen, and this Daughter growing up, was married to the King of Hungary's Son, named Pollinesso, a valiant Knight, who undertook many strange Adventures before he obtained her Love, becoming famous in Arms and many brave Exploits. But they being somewhat foreign to this History, and not performed before the end of these Adventures, we are further to speak of it, and only here lightly mention those illustrious Persons, and leave them as the worthy Subject of another Treatise.

## C H A P. VIII.

How Frenetta, Daughter to King Antiochus, fell desperately in Love with Pollipus; and how upon his Refusing her, and declaring his constant Love for Violetta, she, upon his departure, fell Distracted, and died Mad.

**W**Hilst Pollipus ingred, attended by his supposed Adonis, Frenetta, Daughter to King Antiochus, who had entertained him and Parisinus so honourably in the Desolate Island, came in search of him to the Thessalian Court, as being extreamply in Love, and finding him, he welcomed her to the Palace, with much joy, pleasure, and many endearing expressions, for the kind Offices she had done him, during his stay, in her Father's Court, and recommended her to the Company of the Thessalian Ladies, who entertained her with many Obligements. This courtesie of Pollipus, the Princess taking to proceed from his Love and Affection to her, fondly gave the reins to her Passion, and indulged herself with Flatteries, of things she was never like to possess; yet finding he proceeded not to Court her, as she

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expected, and her Feaver of Love en-  
creasing, after a long while tormenting  
herself in mind, and not being able to  
rule her Passion, she resolved, at the cost  
of many Blushes, to break the Rule,  
which the Modesty of some Virgins al-  
low not, and plainly tell him her mind;  
when one day meeting him in the Gal-  
lery with Adonius, as he came towards  
her, to salute her in his usual manner,  
desiring to know whether she was at li-  
berty to bestow her Conversation on him,  
to pass away a few solitary hours; af-  
ter some Blushes and Excuses, she wil-  
lingly consented, and after some Dis-  
course, about indifferent things, that had  
passed between them, she drew him a-  
side to a window, that looked into a  
pleasant Garden, and not being able to  
contain herself any longer, she thus ex-  
pressed herself:

Courteous Knight, excuse me, if, contrary  
to the Maiden Rule, which ties them up to  
too much Reservedness, I am constrained to  
reveal a Secret that struggles, and is too might-  
y for my Breast to contain. To be plain,  
I Love you with the truest Affection a willing  
heart can entertain; and without like returns  
of Love from you, I find I must be for ever  
miserable. Pollipus was not a little start-  
led

led at this unexpected Discourse, excusing himself as unworthy of so great a Favour, till finding she grew impatient of denial, and that his Compliments only added fuel to her flame, he thought it best to undeceive her, lest the impression, he had made in her Heart, should go too deep, and endanger so virtuous and innocent a Creature, who had deserved well at his hands; one who had refused Princes for his sake. But as he was about to tell her of his Engagement to Violetta, Parismus's coming in, interrupted it; so that the Princess being thus prevented, in the suitable Answer she expected, went away blushing and in much heaviness, leaving her beloved Knight in great confusion, at this unexpected Adventure; which Parismus perceiving, so earnestly pressed him to know what laboured in his mind that he told him all that had passed between him, and the Princess Frenetta. The Prince, hereupon, endeavoured to persuade him to a compliance with her Love, urging the advantages he would gain in Marrying a King's Daughter with a Kingdom to her Dowry; One Wise and Beautiful, and not easily to be excelled in rareness of Perfection.

Adonius

Adonius, who had overheard all this, was mightily troubled, thinking these persuasions might alter his Love, in favour of that Princess, so the tears trickled from her Eyes; for this Adonius, as we have said, was that Violetta, in disguise, that he had vowed eternal Constancy too; but when she heard his reply, joy overflowed her Heart: For, said he, most Noble Prince, though indeed I can but compassionate this Royal Maid, who does me an Honour, of which I am not worthy, in granting me her Love; but having vowed eternal Constancy to my Dear Violetta, and whose true Affection I am confident of, though she be not a King's Daughter, yet is she dearer to me than all the Princesses in the World, nor shall any Crowns bribe me to break my Vows to her; but it may be my absence in search of her, may do this Princess a kindness in curing her of a Passion, which comes too late to be eased by my means.

Parismus, who had proceeded before to try his Constancy, applauded this virtuous Opinion of his; but Violetta, exceedingly rejoiced, as being now confirmed no Beauty, how much soever it might exceed her's, was capable to gain a place in his heart above her; but, howe-

her, where-ever he walked she kept so near to him, that she hindered all the opportunities of the Princess's speaking to him; till at last, being about to depart in search of her that was always so near him in disguise, he resolved to force himself so far as to undeceive the Princess; and thereupon stealing from Adonius, he went to her Chamber, where he found her cast on her Bed, and her fair Eyes much injured by the often trickling down of tears: At the sight of him she raised herself up, as well as the weakness of her condition would allow, and in hopes he came to make a proffer of his Love to her, her heart was so revived, that fresh Blood came into her Face, grown pale with sorrow, and caused a comely Blush; she welcomed him with many kind Expressions; but he, perceiving her mistake, sat down by her, and laying his hand on hers, whilst she gave him a melting kiss, fetching a sigh, he said, Ah! Divine Princess, that I must be ungrateful to so much Beauty and Goodness; that I must refuse what is offer'd, and yet acknowledge it much above my Deserts; yet pardon me, that am constrained to do it, and call in that Love that you have placed on one that can make no suitable Returns;



turns ; my Heart had entertained another Guest before I saw your beauteous Face, a Lady, though no Princess, to whom I have vowed eternal Constancy, though I know not at present what part of the World containeth her.

This the Princess took so heavily, to find she was utterly rejected, that not being capable to reply, bursting into Tears, with a great Cry, she cast herself on her Bed, and fell into a deadly swoond, from which he endeavoured to recover her ; but in the mean time her Maids came about her, and when he saw her begin to revive, he, lest his presence should any more trouble her, withdrew himself ; but when she came to her senses, and missed him, she fell into grievous Complaints, and such immoderate Sorrows, that it disordered her Brain to a degree of Distraction, so that with that, and pining away, by refusing Food, this poor Princess, who came too late to possess a Heart she so vainly would have enjoyed, died, greatly lamented of all that heard of her sad Story.

## C H A P. IX.

How Pollipus, unknow to him, lay with Violetta, under the Disguise of a Page; how he told her the whole Story of his Love, and the Comfort she gave him; how at last, when he was going in Search of her, she discovered herself to him, and of their happy Marriage.

**T**Ho' there were many Turnaments and Jousts ordained in Honour of Parismus's Marriage, and many renowned Knights did Wonders, yet Parismus himself, in Honour of his fair Bride entering the Lists, performed such Wonders in Chivalry, Unhorsing all he encountered, that the Laurel was placed on his Head, by the Judges of the Field, as an Assurance of Victory; and in the close of the Evening, the Palace being Illuminated with Wax Tapers, the Ladies prepared to Dance, and there was Royal Feasting, as well to the Strangers as those that appertained to the Court: But all this while Pollipus was very sad, and intent about his Departure in Search of Violetta, who had lain with him so often unknown, or undiscovered of what Sex she was, which

made him privately withdraw from the Noble Assembly, that by his going to Bed, he might be up the sooner to be going in the Morning; he soon did what he proposed, and ordered his supposed Page to lye with him; he slept little that night, but proved very restless, sighing and groaning very much, tossing to and fro, as one much disturbed in mind, grieving for the Death of the Princess Frenetta, and more, when he considered the Dangers, as he supposed, his dear Violetta might be exposed to for want of his Assistance; which made her, who then lay by him, inwardly smile, and to pass away the time, resolved to enter into a Discourse with him; whereupon, Sir Knight, said she, I wonder that for a considerable time past, I have perceived you altogether restless and uneasie, start in your sleep, and talk of strange things to yourself, the like I have not seen, in any but yourself; therefore, continued she, I beseech you, if I have found any Favour in your Sight, or at any time been Gracious in your Eyes, let me make it my Request that you would freely open your Bosom-thoughts to me, and hide not, from your poor Servant, the weighty Secret, that so much oppresses you; perhaps Heaven may be so propitious,

pitious, as to inspire me with such Counsel, as may afford you a timely Remedy, before you throw yourself into Melancholly, or some despairing Condition.

Poor Boy, replied he, thy Love is unquestionable to me, and I know, lay it in thy power to ease the Dolours and Anguish of my Soul, they would not be of long continuance; but, alas, in the condition I am, all thy Love, Strength, Art, or Policy is unavailable in this case.

But pray, said she, let me know it however, and if I cannot do what I would to contribute to your Quiet and Happiness, I will do it to the utmost of my power; and doubt not but some Advantage may accrue by it.

And so long she pressed him, that at last, fetching a deep sigh, he told her all the material passages of his Love, and that the cause of his Grief sprung from a fear that he was slighted by her he so much loved, since he had never heard from her in any Court wherein he had been enquiring for her.

Is this all, said she; can a Fancy set on a Woman's Beauty, breed such Disquiets in the Mind of so Valiant and Brave a Knight? Come, come, trouble your self no more about it, your Worth, if she had any knowledge of your Love, is of force sufficient to

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Elizabeth

gain her Affections, and keep her constant: Come, chear up, Sir, for I know this **Violetta** well; that she is of so vertuous a Disposition, that nothing can make her condescend to any thing that is not brave and generous; and if I can Presage aright, as often I have done, there is no doubt but in a short space you will find her, and not only find her, but find her courteous and loving, free from disdain, and even from Coyness, any more than Modesty requires.

**This** Discourse, though he could lay no great stress upon it, was, however, pleasing to our Knight; so that towards morning he fell into a pleasant slumber, and dreamed he was Embracing of his dear **Violetta**, with such Content and Satisfaction, that the thoughts of it, even almost Ravished him; when he was awake, and taking it for a good Omen of finding her, he hastied to get ready his Horse, in order to be gone, when **Violetta**, who had all this while gone under the disguised Name of **Adonius**, in a Page his Habit, and had lain with her dear **Pollipus** undiscovered to him, and thereby knew more particularly the sincerity of his Affections towards her; when she found she was unable, by the inward motions of her Heart, to conceal herself any

any longer from his knowledge; she had heard the Sighs and Groans he had uttered, and seen the Tears that in pearly drops distilled from his Eyes, whilst for her supposed loss, whilst she lay by his side, and at other times, when she accompanied him in lonely Woods and Groves, where he vented his Woes and Lamentations; and finding he was about to take his leave of Parisius, in search of her; she concluded he had been enough Afflicted, and ought to suffer no more when it was in her power to remedy it. Yet to save her Blushes and Honour, she thought a convenient opportunity was the best; and therefore being in Bed with him, and hearing his Sighs, though she was still under the disguise of a Page, she told him, she in a little time doubted not but to ease his Sorrow, but he made little account of it; she told him she knew very well where his Lady was, and that she could do more with her, on his behalf, than any one living. He only replying, Alas! pretty Youth, I know thou endeavourest to delude my Sorrows; but I tell you, no Flattery or Insinuation can end them, till I find her, unless Death put an end to my Woes, in the tedious Search I am about to make after her.



Upon this she perswaded him not to undertake it, and had much ado to restrain from Tears; she thought instantly to have discovered herself, but Honour checked her Passion in such an unseemly place; yet promised him that the next day she would ease his Pain, and prevent his Journey, by presenting his Mistress before him; this he still looked on as a Fable, and so, as well as his restless condition would permit, he fell asleep.

The Sun the next Morning had no sooner gilded the Earth with its glorious Beams, and made all Nature rejoice with its kind Light and Heat, but the fair One, rising first, desired him for to come to her in the neighbouring Grove, under the spreading Beech-tree, where he had so often uttered his Laments, and carved the Cipher of his Beloved's Name on the tender Bark, and there he should find the Joy and Satisfaction she had promised him; she needed not to use many Arguments to incite him, for he immediately promised to obey. In the mean while, by the means of Leda, the Princess Laurana's Maid, she had got female-apparel, very rich and costly, and hid them some distance from the place in a Thicket.

Pol-

Pollipus you may be sure was not slow to keep his word, though Doubts and Fears were greater than his expected Joys; it was not long (for the steps of Lovers are always swift) e'er he arrived at the well-known place, and finding only the supposed Adonius there, sitting on a little Hill raised of Turfs, very pensive and thoughtful, he fancied all the contrivance was only to lull his Sorrow asleep; yet she no sooner heard his tread, but starting up, and running to meet him, put him into other thoughts; when she told him, if he would have but the patience to sit a little, she would fetch the Saint he did so much admire, to him.

Ah! said Pollipus, embracing her, if that could be done, all the Business of my Life should be to make thee amends.

Well, replied she, if I do not, let me henceforth suffer all your Hate, which would be worse to me than Death.

Hereupon she departed, and went into the Thicket, and put off her Page's Habit, and attired herself with the other: At her approach he started, and thought he saw a Vision, the Brightness of Angels, casting a radiance of Divine Beauty, through the shading Branches of the Grove; and immediately hasting to meet

to heavenly a Creature, astonish'd, and not able to speak, he fell down at her feet; but she rais'd him gently, when looking on her lovely and well-known Eyes, with Kisses and Tears, he Embraced her, as yet not being able to speak for Joy; but coming a little to himself, and having pour'd out his passionate Affections, his next words were to enquire for Adonius, that he might requite him, in some measure, for so great a Favour: But giving him a tender Kiss, she said, Ah, my Lord, you have that Page in me, Adonius and Violetta are all one: Through the Affections I bore you, and to try your Constancy, I out of that Disguise of Name and Habit. This struck him with greater wonder and admiration than before, that he could scarce believe that he was awake, and that it was rather a Dream than a Reality: but upon her often repeating it, delivering him a Jewel he had given her, and all the former Circumstances of their Love and Misfortunes, in an Excess of Joy he was confirm'd of the Truth; and so an End being put to his Sorrows, and intended Search, he led the Admired Lady to their Lodgings.

The Petrus of this coming to the knowledge

ledge of Parismus, and his fair Princess, caused great Joy in them, who immediately went to visit the two Lovers, and congratulate their happy Meeting: But when Parismus knew that Violetta had been represented by Adonius his Page, he could not but stand in greater Admiration than his Friend, embracing of her tenderly, as did his Princess, declaring her Innocence and Vertue: And here upon Andrugio, her Father, being sensible, with Tears of Joy, gave his Consent, joining their Hands in a happy Marriage, which was celebrated with great Pomp and Magnificence. Pray us and his Countrymen at the Wedding. And with this happy Marriage we conclude the First Part of this Renowned History.

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The End of the First Part.

E. Boock

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## Gentlemen and Ladies,

**T**He First Part of this Famous History having, no doubt, pleased the Reader, I therefore, for farther Satisfaction, introduce him to the Second, no less full of Delight; mostly treating of the Adventures of the Famous Parismenos, the Knight of Fame, Son to the Renowned Parismus, and his beautiful Princess Laurana, with his Love to the most Fair Angelica, the Lady of the Golden Tower, and Daughter to King Morimus; intermixed with other Adventures, no less recreating the Mind; being the Consummation or Conclusion of the whole Story of these Noble Lovers; described in so smooth and easie a Stile, that the Learned, as in a bright Mirror, may see the Image of Vertue, and the Ignorant raised to a highth of Passion, fit to admire and immitate it: Being thus put together, I need not Comment farther on it, but Recommend it impartially, a Piece worthy the Perusal of either Sex, that are enclinable to generous Love, and to immitate the excellent Vertues of the Persons herein Characterized.

Dale.